

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/017,750

Examiner

Mellissa M. Chojnacki

Applicant(s)

KESTER ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/14/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-54 and 97-103.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/14/2006
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to the Appeal Brief filed on April 15, 2005, claims 26 and 38-52 are presently pending in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-54 and 97-103 are allowed over prior art made of record.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Appellants' arguments in the Interview held on April 14, 2005, have been fully considered and are found persuasive.

The prior art of record Shannon (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,618), in further view Smith et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0019656), and Shannon (U.S. Patent No. 6,233,618), in view of Omoigui (U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0051026), does not teach, disclose or suggest:

A system for collecting identifiers for updating a filtering system which controls access to Internet websites/pages between a local area network and an Internet, comprising: a filter system coupled to the Internet gateway system and configured to receive the identifier from the Internet gateway system, determine whether the identifier is in the master database, send the identifier to a database factory if the identifier is not in the master database, and apply one or more rules to one or more categories that are

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associated with the identifier, wherein the one or more categories are received from the database factory; and a database factory configured to receive the identifier from the filter system if the identifier was not in the master database, determine whether the identifier was previously categorized by the database factory, if the identifier was not previously categorized, determine the one or more categories to associate with the identifier and provide the one or more categories to the filter system, else provide the one or more categories that were previously associated with the identifier, as claimed in independent claim 1.

Claims 2-23 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 1.

A method for adapting a filter system which controls access to Internet sites, the method comprising: if the identifier is not in the master database, determining whether the identifier is in an uncategorized database, else applying one or more rules to the one or more categories associated with the identifier; if the identifier is not in the uncategorized database, posting the identifier to the uncategorized database, else updating an uncategorized database request frequency in the uncategorized database that is associated with the identifier; uploading the uncategorized database to a database factory; determining whether each identifier has been previously categorized by the database factory; for each identifier that was not previously categorized, categorizing each identifier and/or a website/page associated with the identifier to select one or more categories to associated with each identifier and posting each identifier

along with its selected one or more categories into a database of categorized sites, as claimed in independent claim 24.

Claims 25-40 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 24.

A method for collecting collection data for updating a filtering system which controls access to Internet sites, the method comprising: receiving a request from a user in the form of an identifier to access a website/page; determining whether the identifier is stored in a master database of categorized identifiers; if the identifier is stored, recalling a category that is associated with the identifier and applying a rule to the identifier that is associated with the category; if the identifier is not stored, determining whether the identifier is stored in an uncategorized database; and if the identifier is not stored in the uncategorized database, posting the identifier to the uncategorized database, else updating an uncategorized database request frequency associated with the identifier, as claimed in independent claim 41.

Claims 42-54 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 41.

A system for collecting identifiers for updating a filtering system which controls access to a wide area network (WAN) of websites/pages, comprising: a master database including one or more identifiers, and one or more categories associated with each of the one or more identifiers; an access system coupled to the WAN and configured to send an identifier request if the identifier request is not in the master database; and a database factory configured to receive the identifier request, select one

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or more categories to associate with the identifier request if the one or more categories were not previously associated with the identifier, and provide the selected one or more categories to the master database, as claimed in independent claim 97.

Claims 98-103 are allowed because they are dependent on independent claim 97.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mellissa M. Chojnacki whose telephone number is (571) 272-4076. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 18, 2006

Mmc


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER